

**My name is Linda Basehore from the Danielson area**

**The reason I come here today is I want you to support the Interpreter Bill 5321**

*Important*

**Main reason is because I had a couple of emergency situations that required medical treatments which was very personal. The doctor's office and the hospital would not hire sign language interpreter. They wanted to use VRI which is Video Remote Interpreter. This is when they use interpreters that you see on the TV. These interpreters may not be from Connecticut. We had problems with VRI connection but when we connected with the interpreter, it was sometimes difficult to understand the interpreter (due to technology and the quality of the interpreter or the signs different because of the interpreter from another state). With VRI, it is often you do not know where the interpreter is from. I am not sure if they are qualified to interpret for me. I know that some other states do not have same law as CT and not hire certified interpreters. When I have a live interpreter with me, I know the interpreter understands me. I know I can trust them and know my signs. In an emergency, I need an interpreter that will understand me, and that I understand.**

**Thank you for your time and I hope you will support this Interpreter Bill 5321**